



# Teaching Tips for Preceptors

## Start With a “Day 1 Mini-Orientation”

How you want them to present patients? What you expect for note-taking or documentation? When they should jump in vs. observe? How you prefer to receive questions? What is your clinic flow? Any “non-negotiables”?

### See One / Map One / Do One

Organize thinking and reduce performance anxiety

### Let Them Lead

Let learners take ownership of portions of the encounter

### Narrate Clinical Reasoning

Share the “why” and help students immediately connect the dots in clinical reasoning

### Share Your Workflow Hacks

Provide insight and helpful tips to managing the administrative side of practice

### Protect the Patient Rapport

Give your student visibility, but set boundaries that maintain trust

### Normalize Uncertainty

*“I’m not sure—let’s look it up.”*  
Teaching uncertainty builds safe, thoughtful clinicians

### Ask Coach-Style Questions

Shift the mindset from *memorizing* to *thinking like a provider*

### Debrief Challenging Visits

Help learners integrate emotional intelligence & clinical reasoning

### Celebrate Wins!

*“Your confidence is growing!”*  
Small affirmations build identity, motivation, and trust

### Give Formative Feedback

“One thing you did well was...”  
“One thing to work on next time is...”